



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

Senate Bill 111

165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106-1658

An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Program Review And Investigations Committee Concerning the Creation of a Governance Structure to Implement E-Government

Committee on Government Administration & Elections

March 11, 2013

The Department of Administrative Services, Bureau of Enterprise Systems & Technologies (DAS-BEST) offers the following testimony regarding Senate Bill 111, An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Program Review and Investigations Committee Concerning the Creation of a Governance Structure to Implement E-Government.

DAS-BEST is committed to improving Connecticut's E-Government profile through a combination of strategic planning, strategic investment, and coordination among state agencies and offices. The State has undertaken a number of initiatives in recent years that accomplish many of the goals outlined in the bill. For example, in 2012, the legislature authorized a Statewide IT initiatives fund, supported with \$50 million in bond funding, to prioritize IT projects throughout state agencies and offices. This fund is managed by OPM, and projects are approved for funding only after OPM, DAS-BEST, and other stakeholder agencies, if appropriate, have assessed whether the state's investment can be shared between / among other state agencies and offices, and whether the investment meets the state's broad IT policy and operational goals. Work is also underway on an E-Government business portal to expand access to on-line government services and transactions.

While DAS-BEST supports the intent behind Senate Bill 111, we are concerned that the E-Government Board contemplated in this bill is too large and formal to be effective and efficient. The technology field is dynamic, and new opportunities to develop e-business solutions for the wide variety of state government programs, operations and services we provide arise frequently. As a result, the state's e-Government steering committee needs to be nimble and able to evolve with the rapidly changing market and business needs of our clients in order to be effective. DAS-BEST respectfully suggests that an administrative board, rather than one established in statute, is the best way to ensure this work is efficiently and effectively managed.

DAS has been working closely with the Governor's Office, the Secretary of the State, OPM, DECD and other agencies to develop a formal governance structure that will more effectively address not only E-Government activities but broader application of technology across government lines. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with the Committee to discuss these ideas in more detail.